



June 2023

Planners' Roundtable Discussion: 2023 Legislation

Join planners from around R.I. tomorrow, Friday, June 2, at 2:30PM to learn about (and discuss) the many bills introduced by the General Assembly this session and their impacts on local planners. If passed, these bills will change many things that planners do on a daily basis: please plan to attend! The discussion will be held in the meeting room at Cranston Central Library, 140 Sockanosset Cross Rd.



This is an in-person event: all R.I. planners are welcome. However, due to space constraints, please RSVP to Roberta.Groch@doa.ri.gov by the close of business today (June 1).

Co-sponsored by the RI Division of Statewide Planning and the Rhode Island Chapter of the American Planning Association (APA RI). (This event is not endorsed by or affiliated with the Cranston Public Library).

New Staff Spotlight



Garth Hoxsie-Quinn was recently hired as the Supervising Geographic Information System (GIS) Specialist for the Division of Statewide Planning. His duties include serving as the GIS Coordinator for the Rhode Island Geographic Information Systems (RIGIS), coordinating updates of existing geospatial data, and acquiring new geospatial data.

Garth was previously a Principal Environmental Scientist with the Rhode Island Department of Health's Center for Drinking Water Quality. He has also worked for the City of Providence's Department of Public Works, the City of Portland (Oregon)

Bureau of Transportation, the Maryland Department of the Environment's Water Supply Program, and EA Engineering, Science, and Technology, Inc.

Garth graduated from the University of Rhode Island with a B.S. in Geology and completed his post-baccalaureate certification in GIS from Penn State in 2020. He relocated back to Rhode Island in 2015 after living in Baltimore, Portland, and New York City. Outside of work, he enjoys spending time with his husband and dogs (two corgis and a pomskey, a cross between a Siberian husky and a Pomeranian), biking on his Peloton (he does not trust drivers in this area), and doing things with friends as much as possible.

Garth can be reached at Garth.HoxsieQuinn@doa.ri.gov.

New Food Policy Fact Sheets

Check out the RI Food Policy Council's new municipal resources! Find [updated municipal fact sheets](#) for 2023, including a new component: land cover maps for each town. Responding to municipal requests, there are also Quick Action Sheets and Planning for Accessible, Equitable, Sustainable, & Resilient Local Food Systems, a toolkit to support municipalities in intentionally integrating food systems.



Remembering Anna Prager

Former South Kingstown Town Planner [Anna Prager](#) passed away at the age of eighty-seven on May 6, 2023. She was a woman and planner who inspired many.

Anna left a notable legacy in South County, where she lived and served for nearly six decades. After teaching high school Chemistry, Anna went back to school to obtain her Master's degree in Community Planning from the University of Rhode Island when her children left for college. She went on to serve on both local and state government, including twelve years as South Kingstown's Town Planner, a seat on the Town Council, policy positions in the Governor's Office, and a stint as Chairman of the Board of the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority.

Over the years Anna received much recognition and many awards for her work, including the "Outstanding American Choice Award," a federal award that recognizes the achievements of naturalized U.S. citizens in contributing to their communities and country. Anna was likely one of the last living Holocaust survivors: she was only three years old when she and her parents were abruptly removed from their home in Poland in 1939. Anna, her parents, and her sister survived and made the long journey to the United States. Anna's memoir, "[I Remember](#)", was published in 2018.

Donations in Anna's memory can be made to the [Holocaust Museum](#) in Washington DC and to [Save the Bay](#).

Upcoming Statewide Planning Meetings

All meetings are open to the public.

[State Planning Council](#)

June 1- 9AM

Room 2A, 1 Capitol Hill, Providence

[Water Resources Board](#)

June 16 - 9AM

Rm 300, 235 Promenade, Providence

Technical Committee

June 2 - 2:30PM

Cranston Library, 140 Sockanosset
Cross Rd.

RIGIS Executive Committee

June 15 - 2PM

William Hall Library- Auditorium
1825 Broad Street, Cranston

Transportation Advisory Committee

June 22 - 5:30PM

Rm 300, 235 Promenade, Providence



PHOTO TRIVIA

Where in Rhode Island can you find this building?

See the answer at the bottom of the newsletter!

Events

Events may be held in person, virtually, or in a hybrid format.

June 1 Connecting the Trails Community to Training, Expertise, and Professional Development. Learn more about the Trail Skills Project providing connections to trails education, trail expertise, professional development, and job opportunities. Time: 1PM. Free.

June 1 Revamping America's Energy Landscape: Balancing Sustainability and Land Use Impact. Learn how we can revamp energy planning processes to better address the land use dimensions of renewable energy infrastructure. Time: 1PM-2PM. Free.

June 1 SNEAPA session informational webinar. The SNEAPA 2023 Planning Committee is offering a webinar that discusses the submission requirements and review criteria, and evaluation process for SNEAPA in New Haven (10/5-10/6). Time: 10AM. Free.

June 2 Planners' Roundtable Discussion: 2023 Legislation. See blurb, above. Location: Cranston Central Library, 140 Sockanosset Cross Rd. Free. Sponsored by RI Statewide Planning and APA-RI. Time: 2:30PM. Free; please RSVP to Roberta.Groch@doa.ri.gov

June 2 Emerging Governance Structures for Climate Resilience. State and local governments need to turn climate adaptation plans into action: hear how communities across the country are approaching this challenge. Time: 9AM - 12PM. Fee: \$15-\$45.

June 6 Scenario Planning for Legacy Cities: A Case Study in Lakewood, Ohio Join the Consortium for Scenario Planning about the recent exploratory scenario planning workshop on housing affordability in Lakewood, Ohio. Time: 12PM-1PM. Free. 1 CM.

June 7 Dimensions of Urban and Community Forestry. Hear experts from the USDA Forest Service and Michigan State University discuss the influence of species composition and surrounding land use on urban forest function. Time: 3PM-4PM. Free.

June 7 [Prioritizing Speed Management in Vision Zero Planning](#). Hear from leaders in communities that recognize how a Safe System approach lifts up strategies to slow speeds/improve safety, starting with the Vision Zero planning process. Time: 1PM. Free.

June 8 [Case Study: The Beatrice, NE, Approach to Defeating Negativity](#) The Executive Director of Main Street Beatrice will share the journey of changing the perception of Beatrice and six lessons learned along the way. Time: 11AM-12PM. Free.

June 8 [Exploring Inequities in the Transportation Sector](#). Emphasizing equity as sustainable technologies are rolled out and in how decision-makers develop their urban infrastructure planning will ensure movement towards an inclusive society. Time: 1PM-2PM. Free.

June 8 [Improving Racial Equity Through Public Policy](#). Experts will present ideas on ways to mitigate bias and discrimination and generate greater equity in social, economic, and political outcomes. Time: 10AM-12PM. Free.

June 8 [Transportation Resources And Behaviors Among Older Immigrants And Migrants](#). Speakers will identify transportation-related characteristics and options for assessing geospatial transportation burden among ride providers of older adult immigrants. Time: 1PM. Free. 1 CM.

June 8 [Summer Tree Summit](#). Hear about historical context and future aspirations of our contemporary urban forests and how we can be part of shaping this legacy. Time: 12PM-2PM. Fee: \$20.

June 9 [Regional Collaboration of Utilities and Communities Toward Resilience Goals](#). Webinar features two initiatives from the U.S. that involve collaboration between energy providers, local government and community stakeholders to for sustainability and resilience-related outcomes. Time: 1PM. Free. 1.5 CM.

June 13 [Pedestrian Crash Factors, Trends, and Treatments](#) will examine pedestrian crash trends, analyze various contributing factors, and provide cost-effective safety improvements throughout the roadway network. Time: 1PM-2:30PM. Fee: \$60.

June 13 [SNEP Forum](#). Come provide input on the work that SNEP has completed and work to be done. Time: 9AM-4:30PM. Location: Bristol Community College, Jackson Arts Center, 777 Elsbree Street, Fall River. Free.

June 14 [Equity in Roadway Safety Webinar Series: Tools to Conduct Equitable Safety Data Analysis](#) Learn about USDOT tools and resources that can support equitable analysis of data for safety planning, project prioritization, and discretionary grant applications. Time: 1PM-3PM. Free. 2 CM.

June 14 [Ten Tips for Putting a Successful Federal Grant Application Together](#). Learn about Maryland's Build America Center and gain insight into key tips for putting a successful federal grant application together. Time: 1PM-1:30PM. Free.

June 15 [How We Move on: Planning for a Future without Fossil Fuels](#). It's essential we phase out systems that emit greenhouse gases, but how do we move forward? What will it look like in the near-term? Time: 4:30PM. Location: URI's Bay Campus, Corless Auditorium, and via Zoom. Free.

June 16 [Landscapes of Erasure](#). Black landscapes matter: what should planners/historic preservationists do when a physical landscape no longer exists? Hear about the mapping of Black spaces that were wiped off the map. Time: 12PM. Free. 1 CM Equity.

June 20 [9th Annual “Talking Trash” Conference: Southern New England](#) for solid waste professionals, facility managers, municipal leaders, and sustainability leaders. Time: 8:30AM-12:30PM. Location: DoubleTree by Hilton, 5400 Computer Dr., Westborough, MA. Fee: \$50-\$190.

June 21 [More than a cycle lane: How investment in better walking and cycling networks improves accessibility for people with disabilities.](#) Gain understanding of the importance of ensuring people with disabilities maintain autonomous access to mobility, especially for walking and cycling. Time: 2PM-3PM. 1 CM.

June 22 [Planning for Transitional and Long-Term Housing After a Major Disaster.](#) Virtual FEMA training. Time: 11AM-5PM, including an hour for lunch and breaks throughout the training. Free.

June 26 - 27 [Facilitation Basics for Coastal Managers.](#) Class time is provided to practice using tools and skills to plan and facilitate meetings that accomplish objectives while minimizing conflict. Time: 1PM-4PM Free. 6 CM.

June 27 [Environmental Justice: What is it and Why Should I Care?](#) Overview of what environmental justice (EJ) means in a broader national context before diving into an in-depth origins of EJ regulations in Rhode Island. Time: 9AM-11:30AM. Fee: \$0-\$70.

June 27 [Retail at Train and Bus Stations: Innovative strategies to enhance revenue, amenities, ridership, and safety.](#) This webinar will show how innovative transit agencies, property managers, and developers are adapting to this changing retail climate. Time: 2PM-3PM. Free. 1 CM.

June 29 [Helping Wheelchair Hikers Find Hiking Trails.](#) Washington Trails Association recently developed and deployed a wheelchair-friendly filter with the help of wheelchair hikers in their community. Time: 1PM. Free. 1 CM.

August 10 [Planners' Summer Social at Narragansett Beach](#) Save the date! The annual APA-RI Summer Social is back at Narragansett Beach for food, drinks, and fun on the ocean. Stay tuned for more details! Time: 6PM-9PM.

Deadlines

June 1 [Urban & Community Forestry Inflation Reduction Act](#) deadline. Program funds projects that address and apply nature-based solutions to chronic and emergent economic, social, and environmental challenges in communities

June 5 [Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program.](#) Ideal projects will create impacts on local economies and have a strategy to deliver on the goals of the Justice40 initiative. Proposals may be for planning, strategy development/analysis, or for implementation/scaling.

June 5 [Rural Housing Preservation Grant](#) provides qualified public agencies, private nonprofit organizations, and other eligible entities grant funds to assist very low- and low-income homeowners in repairing and rehabilitating their homes in rural areas.

June 6 [FY23 Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grants](#) support the development of comprehensive plans to revitalize severely distressed public housing and/or HUD-assisted housing and the surrounding neighborhood.

June 13 [Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Discretionary Grant](#) deadline EXTENDED to help municipalities deploy publicly-accessible electric vehicle charging/alternative fueling infrastructure in the places people live and work, urban and rural areas.

June 14 [Digital Projects for the Public grants](#) supports projects that interpret and analyze humanities content in primarily digital platforms and formats, such as websites, mobile applications and tours, interactive touch screens and kiosks.

June 15 [RI 2025 Climate Action Strategy deadline](#) for public comment. Comment on request for information (RFI) about the development of the State's 2025 Climate Action Strategy.

June 15 [Organic Transition Initiative](#) to help Rhode Island farmers and forest landowners transition to organic production.

June 20 [Community Connect Grant Program](#) provides financial assistance to eligible applicants that will provide service at or above the Broadband Grant Speed in rural, economically-challenged communities where broadband service does not exist.

June 23 [SNEAPA session proposals due](#) for SNEAPA in New Haven on October 5-6, 2023. Priority will be given to engaging sessions with a diversity of participants, new ideas, collaborative approaches and address current and relevant topics and issues.

June 24 [FY2023 Conservation Innovation Grants](#) to stimulate the development and adoption of innovative conservation approaches and technologies in conjunction with agricultural production in Rhode Island.

June 28 [Public Impact Projects at Smaller Organizations](#) program supports small and mid-sized museums and cultural organizations in the creation of public humanities programming and strengthens their capacity to develop such programming.

June 28 [The Rural Community Development Initiative](#) requires the grantee to provide a program of financial/technical assistance to develop recipients' capacity for projects related to housing, community facilities, or community and economic development.

June 30 [SNEP 2023 Stormwater and Natural Infrastructure Grants](#) for stormwater infrastructure/roadway runoff; riparian areas, floodplain, and inland wetlands; habitat connectivity; urban area resilience/ restoration; monitoring; and municipal planning.

Articles of Interest

[Town Council considers restricting flag policy](#)

[Residents don't prefer affordable housing plan over previous use of parcel](#)

[R.I. solar development gets first green light under new law](#)

[More talk of traffic, density at development hearing](#)

[Insurance giant stops selling new homeowner policies due to risk](#)

[Rhode Island fishermen to sue state and federal agencies](#)

RI Statewide Planning Staff

Click [here](#) for staff contact information.

Photo Trivia Answer

CRANSTON

Rosedale Apartments (1939)

Photo: Wikipedia

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